

Water Storage

Benton Franklin Health District Emergency Preparedness Fact Sheets

When storing water make sure to use food grade containers, such as soda pop bottles. Use bottles that have a lid that can seal tight. **ONLY USE bleach without perfumes, dyes and other additives**. Regular bleach should only have sodium hypochlorite as the active ingredient. Clean the container by using the following directions:

- 1. Wash and rinse the containers.
- 2. Sanitize the containers in a 1 tsp of bleach :1 gallon of water
- 3. Allow the containers to sit in the sanitizer for one minute
- **4.** Air dry containers
- 5. Once air dry, add 1/8 tsp of bleach to every gallon of water
- **6.** Seal the container tightly
- 7. Label the bottle with date
- 8. Store in a dark place
- **9.** Replace water supply every 6 months





If a Boil Order is issued:

- 1. Bring water to a rolling boil for 3-5 minutes
- 2. Let the water cool
- 3. For better flavor, add oxygen by shaking water in a sealed container

Make a filter out of a soda pop bottle:

- 1. Create a funnel by cutting off top \(\frac{1}{4} \) of an empty soda pop bottle
- 2. Place filter paper (coffee filter, cheese cloth) over spout of pop bottle
- 3. Secure with rubber band
- 4. Place funnel in bottom ³/₄ of pop bottle
- 5. Strain the water

Purify water using chlorine bleach:

- 1. Use the bleach that has no perfume, dye, or other additives
- 2. Strain the water if from surface water or if water is cloudy
- 3. Add 3 drops of bleach per 1 liter of water*
 OR 10 drops of bleach per 1 gallon of water*
- 4. Mix thoroughly
- 5. Allow the MIXTURE TO SIT for 30 minutes before using

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^{*} if water is cloudy or surface water or very cold add 5 drops of bleach per 1 liter of water and 20 drops of bleach per 1 gallon of water